

DRAFT

8 September 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration

25X1 FROM:

[REDACTED]
Special Support Assistant to the DDA

SUBJECT: Security Allowance (U)

1. Paragraph 5 contains two recommendations for your approval. (U)

2. Agency personnel assigned overseas are becoming increasingly concerned about the safety and protection of their families and their residences. The incidence of uncontrolled lawlessness and acts of terrorism at many foreign posts has increased substantially in recent years. Families respond by tending to be more housebound than was previously the case. The greatly increased numbers of robberies and acts of petty vandalism clearly tend to increase this housebound tendency while, at the same time, increasing the anxiety when the home is indeed violated. Personnel mentally prepared for the rigors of overseas living are not necessarily equally prepared for the vulnerability of their residences and the potential for harm to their persons. Acts ranging from minor thefts to random acts of terrorism are

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being reported with alarming frequency. The adverse psychological impact of systematic attempts to disclose the identity of Agency personnel serving overseas compounds this circumstance. (C)

3. At the present time, we look to

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25X1 the host government to ensure that our personnel receive adequate protection. As instability and unrest spread at some posts of the world, it is unrealistic to continue to adhere to a policy which ignores the realities of overseas service; and, in some instances, the inability or refusal of host government law enforcement agencies to provide minimum standards of protection. As the need for assistance from the host government increases, the availability of the response decreases. (C)

4. While this Agency accepts its responsibility for the safety of its personnel, the programs operative to date tend either to be remedial or to be based on the circuit schedule of our professional security staff which is already stretched too thin to provide service to all of our overseas needs. While no program can be guaranteed to be totally sufficient, increased attention at this time to the silent fears of our families will go a long way to assuring our personnel that basic and adequate steps are being taken to afford them a minimum standard of protection, thereby relieving some of the stressors of overseas service. (C)

5. It is recommended that you authorize assignees to our foreign field posts:

a. An accountable Security Allowance not to exceed \$200 per family or single employee to permit, with the assistance of the Office of Security, the purchase of suitable protective equipment such as locks, dead bolts, and simple alarms.

b. Authority to ship a watch dog to their foreign post incident to their PCS travel. Personnel should be permitted to apply any portion of the Security Allowance to the shipment charges and should, further, be authorized to apply any unused portion of their excess baggage allowance to the same shipment. Except in unusual circumstances, the dog should travel concurrently with the sponsor. (C)

6. While the Security Allowance will serve to partially meet an ongoing vital need for our overseas assignees, it must be noted that its approval would represent ~~yet another~~ *an* administrative difference between this Agency and the Department of State which ~~might well~~ *could* be viewed adversely by them. Comments on our proposal from the Office of Security are attached.
(C)

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Attachment:
As stated